

ARCHITECTURAL/HISTORICAL INVENTORY OF FITCHBURG

Project Completion Report
May 1977

Prepared by Frank Garretson, Project Director

Description of Project

This project completed a substantial amount of an architectural and historical inventory of Fitchburg. Included in the inventory are all the styles and types of buildings located in Fitchburg as well as areas, monuments, sites, burial grounds, and structures. Over five hundred inventory forms were completed. Included are buildings dating from the mid 18th century up to the present. Much of the inventory, however, covers the period of Fitchburg's greatest growth and prosperity from 1845, when the railroad was completed to Fitchburg, until the Great Depression.

Methodology Employed

First, all maps with different dates on which buildings were located were collected. Nine different maps were found whose dates were 1764, 1830, 1851, 1871, 1882, 1892, 1895, 1897, and 1936. Each map was given a color code and each building plotted in its coded color on a master map. Thus, by looking at the master map, one can see the timing of the physical development of the city and can approximately date a building. This map provided the information which determined which areas or buildings were to receive a visual inspection. This map is occasionally inaccurate. On the older maps it was often difficult to exactly locate buildings and often buildings were either moved or replaced. An additional problem was that some of the maps do not cover the rural areas of the city. Therefore, the master map serves as a guide only. Information on this map must be verified.

A review was made of several of the major publications on Fitchburg and of the Avery Index and other architectural information. Additional areas or buildings were added to the list of places to be visually inspected.

A visual inspection form was developed. This form provided a systematic way to describe and evaluate a building, its condition, landscaping, neighborhood, and possibility for economic and functional use. Also an evaluation was made of the building's National, State or Local significance. A copy of the "Visual Inventory Form" is attached.

The inventory was conducted with the volunteer help of William

Chittick, a member of the Historical Commission. His knowledge of the city's buildings and streets was invaluable.

Concurrently, many publications on Fitchburg including histories and newspapers, were reviewed. A bibliography is attached. Information which pertained to the inventory was noted on the back on the inventory forms.

A number of interviews were held with residents of the community who are exceptionally knowledgeable of local history to review the inventory. Included were Barbara Crocker, Elliot Wellington, and Alfred Woolacott. Barbara Crocker had notebooks of newspaper clippings, many of which related to historic places. This additional information was also added to the forms.

The information collected was reviewed. Some properties were eliminated if they rated low on architectural or historical significance.

The final step was to transfer the information to the Massachusetts Historical Commission forms. A numbering system was devised and all forms numbered along with corresponding site or area maps.

Through the inventory, we discovered that many of Fitchburg's buildings were designed by a local architect, Henry M. Francis, and later by the firm of Henry M. Francis and Sons. A search was begun to locate any information on Francis and his sons. After many letters, phone calls and questions, we discovered that C. Kimball Francis of Lunenburg, a cousin of Henry Francis, possessed most of the drawings of Henry M. Francis and Henry M. Francis and Sons. He graciously allowed us to inventory the drawings. This delayed other work but provided us with documented proof of Francis' work and often, but not always, the dates. Henry M. Francis worked as an architect in Fitchburg between 1868 and his death in 1908. He designed many of the churches, public buildings, schools, and finer residences in Fitchburg during this period. Tentatively, C. Kimball Francis has agreed to allow drawings from his collection to be displayed at the Fitchburg Art Museum in the Spring of 1980 as a part of an exhibition on Henry M. Francis.

An additional search was made for the names of other architects who did work in Fitchburg. This was generally done for buildings constructed in this century which appeared to be architect-designed. Owners were contacted and asked if they had the original plans. If the plans existed, the architect's name was recorded.

Evaluation of Findings

Over five hundred buildings, monuments, sites, burial grounds, and structures were inventoried. These are located throughout the city with concentrations in thirteen areas. The areas include the following:

Monument Park
Upper Common
Prichard Street
Main Street
Nashua River
Rockville and vicinity
Cleghorn
High Street
Mt. Vernon Street
Blossom Street
Highland Avenue
Summer Street
South Street

Different buildings types were inventoried. The different types and the approximate number inventoried are shown on the following list:

Industrial	40 Buildings
Commercial	65
Institutional	30
Religious	20
Residential	375

Buildings which might be considered to have national significance were also identified. These were rated in three categories of high, medium, or low national significance. Two buildings were rated as having high national significance, seven as medium, and thirty-five as low.

All of the areas have the potential to become historic districts. Selected areas should be pursued as districts in order to encourage preservation or conservation of a broad spectrum of Fitchburg's history and architecture. Included should be different building types such as residential, industrial, commercial, or mixed use areas and a cross section of architectural styles. This could be accomplished with four districts in addition to the Monument Park Historic District. These are the Upper Common, the Nashua River area in the vicinity of Sheldon Street, the Prichard Street area, and the Summer Street area especially Atlantic Avenue, Beacon Street, and Bluff Avenue.

These areas should be considered for rehabilitation program. Perhaps Community Development funds could be used under guidelines approved by the Fitchburg Historical Commission.

The inventory verified the fact that Fitchburg has a rich historical and architectural heritage. The quality of architecture rates high with other cities of similar size. Of particular significance is the excellent late 19th century and early 20th century architecture which happens to be the period of the greatest creativity in American architecture. Fitchburg was in the forefront of the architectural developments of this period. Much of the quality architecture was designed by Henry M. Francis. During this period other noted architects also designed buildings in Fitchburg including Richard Upjohn, R.M. Upjohn, Hobart Upjohn, O.E. Nault, O.A. Thayer, Howard Van Doren Shaw, E. Boyden, and James Purdon. Many of the architecturally significant buildings have not had major alterations. Fitchburg is a living museum of turn-of-century architecture. The city is justified being proud of this and should make the best use of this resource. Large, old mills and commercial buildings can be economically rehabilitated for new uses and neglected residential areas can again become good neighborhoods.

Products of the Inventory

The inventory will be the basis of a preservation plan for Fitchburg. This is now being started with Community Development funds and with a grant from the National Park Service and Massachusetts Historical Commission. The preservation plan will evaluate the inventory. Programs and methods to encourage preservation will be considered such as funding, zoning, ordinances, and historic districts. The financial framework which surrounds preservation will be examined including loan and mortgage policies. Present programs will be analyzed for their possible relationship to and effect on historic preservation. The plan will review various design criteria and make recommendations for specific design criteria if and when appropriate. The plan will point out how the inventory can be beneficially coordinated with existing and future planning activities and will encourage the official adoption of the preservation plan and its integration into the community planning process.

Through an examination and analysis of programs and methods available for preservation, inventoried buildings will remain or become productive elements of the city adding to or maintaining the tax base, while building upon the heritage and appearance of the city, making Fitchburg a more attractive and desirable place to live.

Achievement of Project Goals

The goal of this project was to substantially complete a comprehensive inventory of Fitchburg. The project achieved this goal. Now a preservation plan is being prepared to develop strategies to encourage preservation. A number of in-

ventoried areas could become future districts. The preservation plan will establish priorities. It is clear at this time that the top priority should be given to the Upper Common area. The Upper Common area should be considered immediately for district designation since it is very important architecturally and historically, is in a state of change, and because it would complement the downtown revitalization effort.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area

Area no.

1
2, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
900

A

1. Town Fitchburg

Name of area (if any) _____

Monument Park District

3. General date or period _____

Late 19th Century

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? Yes, Late 19th Century

in condition? good to excellent

in type of ownership? mainly public and semi-public

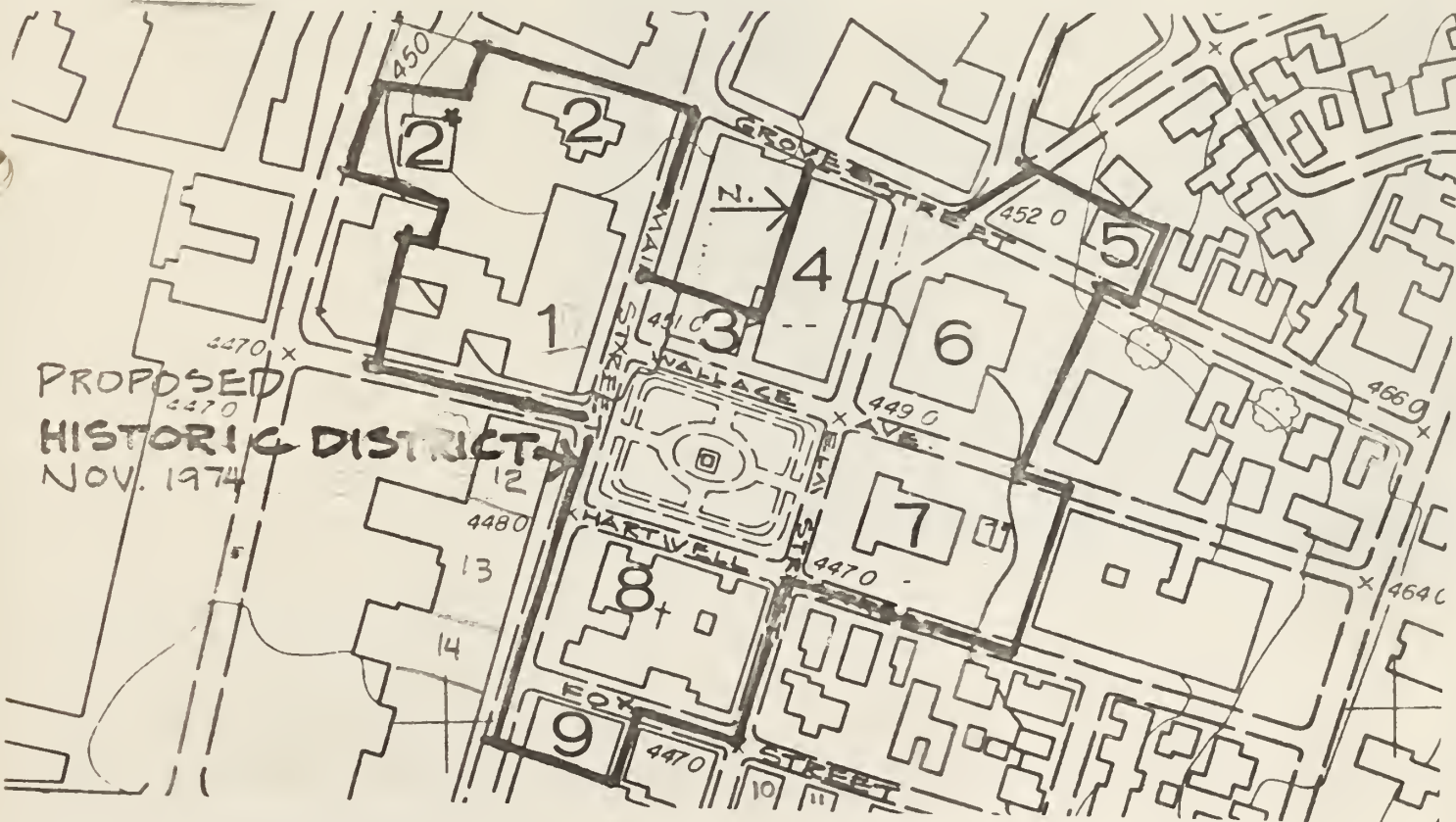
in use? "

2. Photo (8x5" or 3x5")

Staple to left side of form

Photo number A-1 X ✓

1. Fitchburg Public Library
2. Fay Club
3. Trinitarian Church (hardware store)
4. Armory
5. Fitchburg Historical Society
6. Post Office
7. Worcester County Superior Court
8. Christ Church
9. Worcester County National Bank



6. Recorded by Frank Garretson

Organization Fitchburg Planning Dept.

MAY 7 1975 Date

21 March 1975

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

MASS. (over) HIST. COMM.

7 1975

HIST. COMM.

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

Each building in this area is of a high quality of design, materials, and construction. Several were designed by nationally noted architects including Christ Church by Richard Upjohn and the Fitchburg Library by Carl Koch. The City grew and prospered between 1845 when the railroad reached Fitchburg and 1911 when growth leveled off. With the exception of the new Library, the buildings in the district were constructed during this prosperous period of Fitchburg history.

Most of the buildings have been for public or semi-public use. Monument Park, the center of the area, was until last year, surrounded by buildings of four levels of government - the federal post office, the state armory, the county court house and the city library. This grouping was unique. Many important city activities have occurred in this area. The Trinitarian church was the scene of much protest against slavery. Monument Park commemorates Fitchburg's 142 Civil War dead. The uses of the other buildings have contributed to the City's development. Themes which have been noted for the buildings include - Architecture, Communication, Education, Industry, Military, Religion, and Social/Humanitarian.



8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

"Fitchburg, Mass. Pictorial Souvenir, 1901"

Currier, Frederic, "History of Christ Church," Christ Church Coll.

"Fitchburg Daily Sentinel - Souvenir Edition," June, 1891

Emerson, William A., Fitchburg, Mass., Past and Present. Fitchburg, Blanchard and Brown. 1887

Kirkpatrick, Doris, The City and the River, Fitchburg Historical Society, 1971

Fitchburg Historical Society Proceedings, Vol. 1-5, 1895-1914

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area

100 - 162

Area no.

B

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XX

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.

Name of area (if any) _____

Prichard Street Area

3. General date or period 19th Century

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? Various styles

in condition? Good to excellent

in type of ownership? Mostly private

in use? Mixed use, mainly Residential
with some office and public uses.

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F. using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Frank Garretson

Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.

Date March 1977

(over)

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This area, so close to Main Street and the downtown, is filled with 19th century houses. Parts of it, such as Central Street, have a character similar to Marblehead. This is a very attractive residential area and is filled with history. This area should be an historic district.



8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

Sentinel, 17 Nov. 1914

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
200 - 368	C

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XIX, XIX, XX,
XX

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.

Name of area (if any)

Upper Common

3. General date or period 19th century

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? Various styles from Federal
to modern

in condition? Poor to excellent

in type of ownership? Mostly private with
some institutional, public, and
in use? commercial

mixed use

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. ^{mixed use} Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant

MHC Photo no.

6. Recorded by Frank Garretson

Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.

Date March 1977

(over)

Architectural/Historical Inventory of Fitchburg

Form numbers 200-368

Area C





7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This area is filled with the history of the development of Fitchburg. This area is also a living museum of architectural styles in the City. Included in this area ~~are~~ ^{are} many building types. The area around the Upper Common has commercial, public, and religious buildings. Other streets have attractive residential buildings. On Prospect Street are many of the most elegant houses in town in many different styles. This area should be an historic district.



8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

Sentinel, 8 Feb. 1923
Sentinel, 19 Jan. 1922

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
400 - 421	D

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XX

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.

Name of area (if any) _____

Main Street Area

3. General date or period Late 19th century
and early 20th century

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? Commercial

in condition? Poor to excellent

in type of ownership? Private

in use? Commercial

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

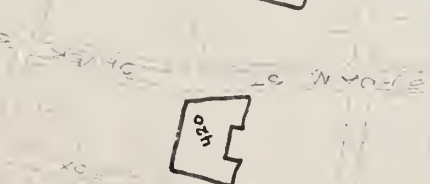
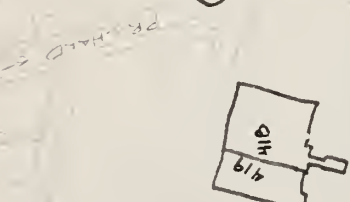
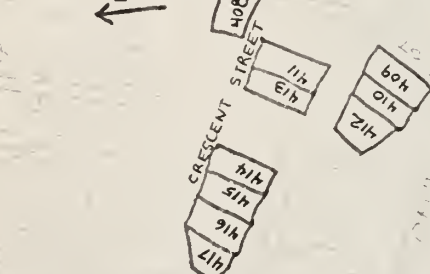
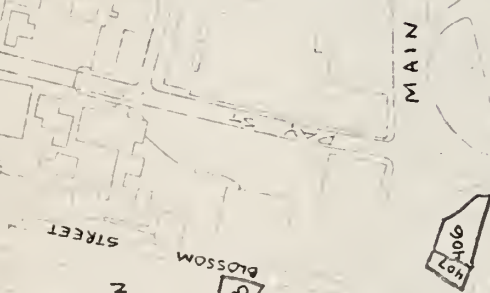
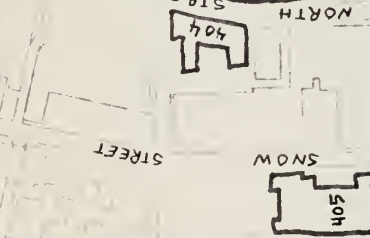
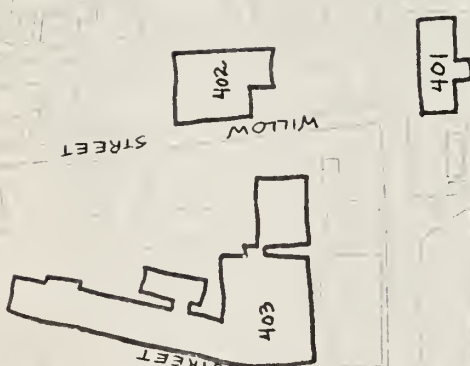
6. Recorded by Frank Garretson

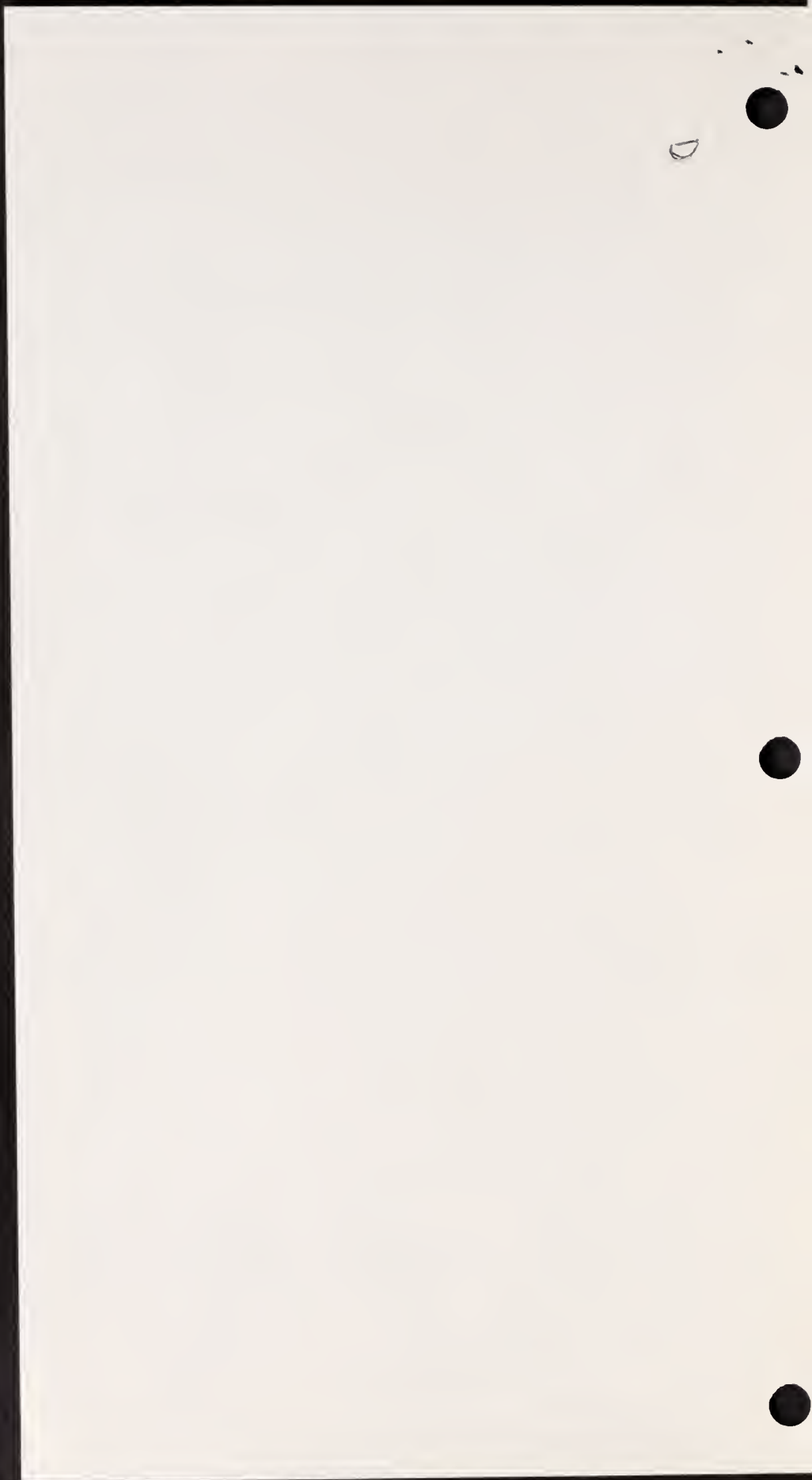
Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.

Date March 1977

(over)

400
SUMMER ST.





7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

Main St., Fitchburg has some very attractive features. The street itself is interesting due to its bends and curves. At various focal points are excellent pieces of architecture such as City Hall and the First Parish Church. From the street one can see the surrounding wooded hills yet the street is lined with commercial buildings which give a very urban character to the downtown. Many of the buildings are excellent examples of Victorian commercial architecture. Also on Main Street are some attractive churches and industrial buildings. This is an area which could benefit by building upon its architectural and urban design assets. Unfortunately several important buildings have been torn down such as the Union Depot.

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
500 - 528	E

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XX

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.

Name of area (if any) _____

Nashua River Area

3. General date or period _____

19th Century

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? Industrial

in condition? Poor to Good

in type of ownership? Private

in use? Industrial/Vacant

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "X" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

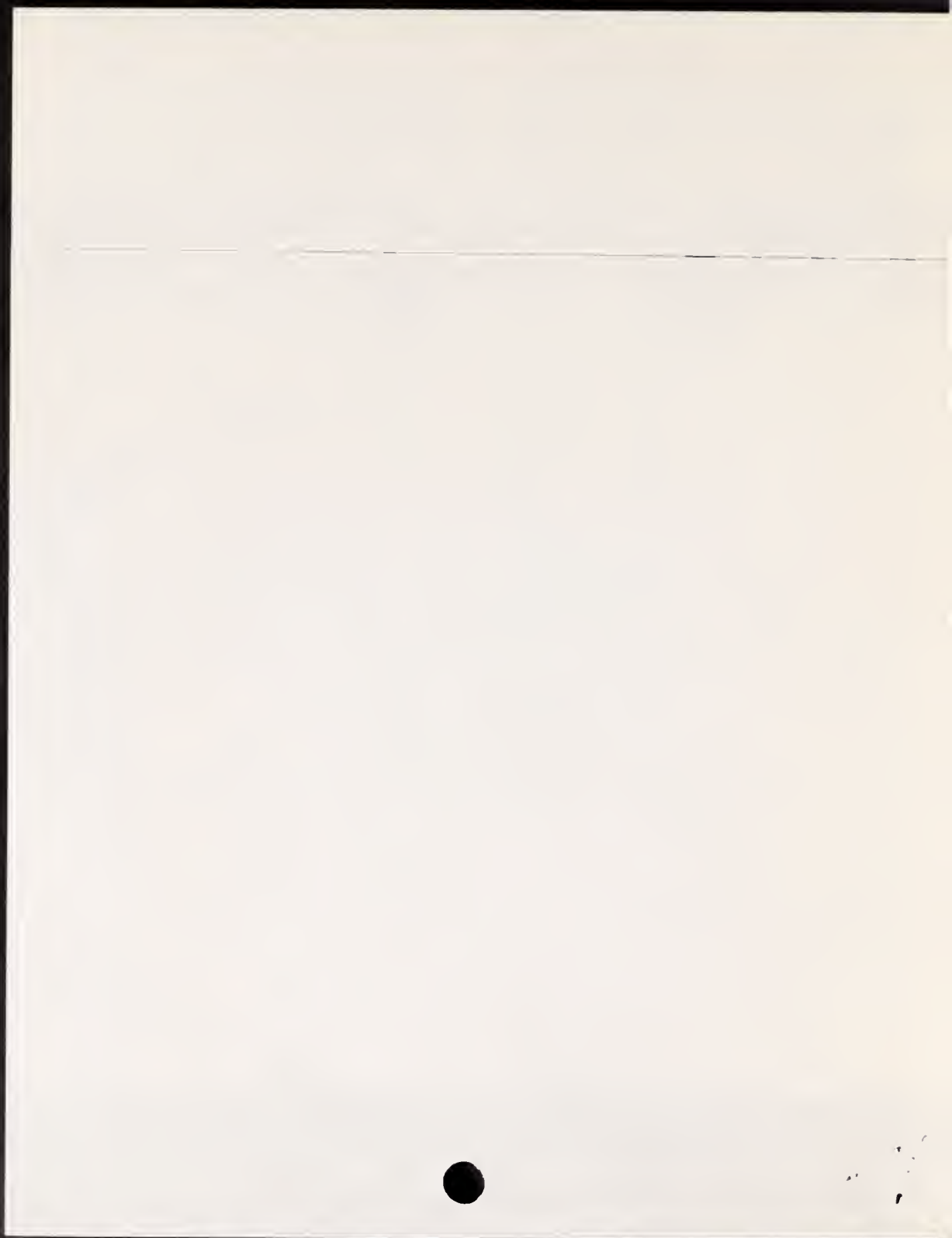
6. Recorded by Frank Garretson

Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.

Date March 1977

(over)





7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This is not a shaply defined area but many areas along the North Nashua River. The first dam and mill were constructed c.1750 in the present downtown area. Since that time Fitchburg has grown into an industrial city. At first the water power was used. Later growth was encouraged by the railroad and highways which followed the river. The river was also used to take away industrial wastes.

A portion (or portions) of this area should become an historic district. The city's history is primarily its industry and workers.

Much of the industrial architecture is interesting and substantial.

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
600 - 603	F

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.
Name of area (if any) Cleghorn
2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number X1X XX
3. General date or period c. 1880's-1920's
4. Is area uniform (explain):
in style? Turn-of-the-century
in condition? Poor to excellent
in type of ownership? Mostly private
in use? Mixed

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F. using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Frank Garretson
Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.
Date March 1977

(over)



CLEMONS ST.

DANIELS ST.

603

ALLEN PLACE

FAIRMONT ST.

PLYMOUTH ST.



601

WOODLAND ST.

COLUMBUS ST.

602

602

CLARENDON STREET

DANIELS ST.

MADISON ST.

602

PRATT ST.

PRATT RD.

F

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This area had a few farms from the 18th and early 19th century. Starting around 1885, mills were constructed along the N. Nashua and soon this area became a settlement for Fitchburg's French Canadian population who worked in the mills. The mills rapidly expanded at the turn of the century. Along with this an urban neighborhood grew up. Included were commercial areas near the mills and a church, schools, and convent in the center of the neighborhood. This area still retains its French Canadian character. Much of the residential construction are three deckers or tenement buildings. There is little open space. This area is the best and largest example of an ethnic neighborhood which developed over a short period of time. Areas of this neighborhood closest to the mills are deteriorating.



8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
700 - 717	G

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XX

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.
Name of area (if any) Rockville
and vicinity (West Fitchburg)
3. General date or period 19th Century
4. Is area uniform (explain):
in style? No
in condition? Generally
in type of ownership? Private
in use? Residential/Industrial

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Frank Garretson
Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.
Date March 1977

ONY ROAD

INSTITUTE STREET

PHILIPS STREET

716

COTTAGE STREET

716

TEMPLE STREET

VERNON STREET

TEMPLE STREET

713

SANBORN STREET

714 STREET

SANBORN

VERNON CT. STREET

715

SIMONDS RD.

WESTMINSTER STREET

712

N

ASHBURNHAM STREET

PARKVIEW STREET

STREET

704

703

702

701

700

709

708

712

711

707

706

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This developed first as an agricultural area. Around 1850 this area began to develop as an industrial and residential area. Phillips Brook runs through the area and provided water and water power. This area became densely developed and was very attractive, in part due to the topography. There are excellent examples of Greek Revival architecture in this neighborhood.

This area has a large English population and grew earlier than many of the other neighborhoods.

Some of Fitchburg's major industries have been associated with this area.

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area

1000 - 1007

Area no.

H

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XX

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.

Name of area (if any) _____

High Street Area

3. General date or period _____

19th century

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? Various styles

in condition? Varies

in type of ownership? Private

in use? Residential

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Frank Garretson

Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.

Date March 1977

(over)



JANSON ST

1006

1005

1004

1003

1002

1001

1000

STREET

HI 6 H

ELM STREET

SIMON ST

1007

MT CUBERT

PLEASANT ST

N

H

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This area developed in the 2nd half of the 19th century. This area is on a hill close to the downtown. In the area are Greek Revival style houses, including an Octagon, and various Victorian cottages and larger homes and tenements. The mix of buildings, styles, shapes, and sizes is interesting. This area has much character. This area has been declining. Neighborhoods such as this could and should become an asset to the community.

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This developed first as an agricultural area. Around 1850 this area began to develop as an industrial and residential area. Phillips Brook runs through the area and provided water and water power. This area became densely developed and was very attractive, in part due to the topography. There are excellent examples of Greek Revival architecture in this neighborhood.

This area has a large English population and grew earlier than many of the other neighborhoods.

Some of Fitchburg's major industries have been associated with this area.

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
1000 - 1007	H

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XX

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.
Name of area (if any) High Street Area
3. General date or period 19th century
4. Is area uniform (explain):
in style? Various styles
in condition? Varies
in type of ownership? Private
in use? Residential

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Frank Garretson
Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.
Date March 1977

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area

Area no.

1100 - 1118

I

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XX

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.

Name of area (if any) _____

Mount Vernon Street Area

3. General date or period mainly

1850-1900

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? Victorian

in condition? Poor to excellent

in type of ownership? Private

in use? Residential

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

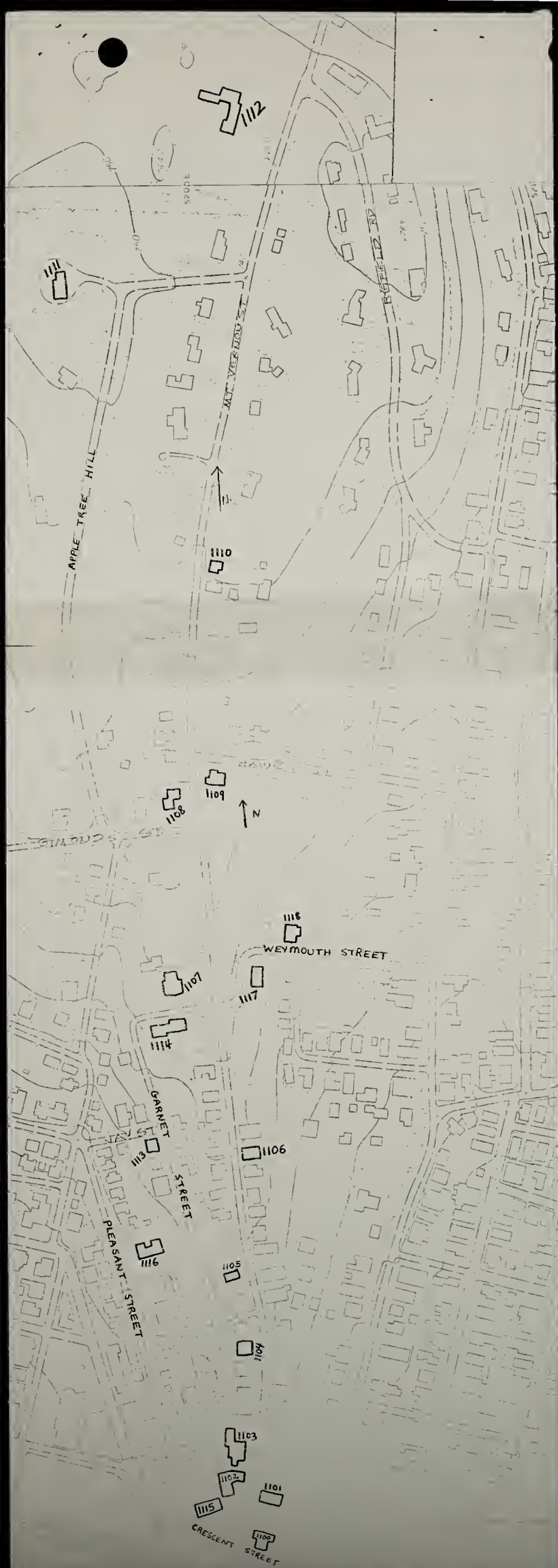
MHC Photo no. _____

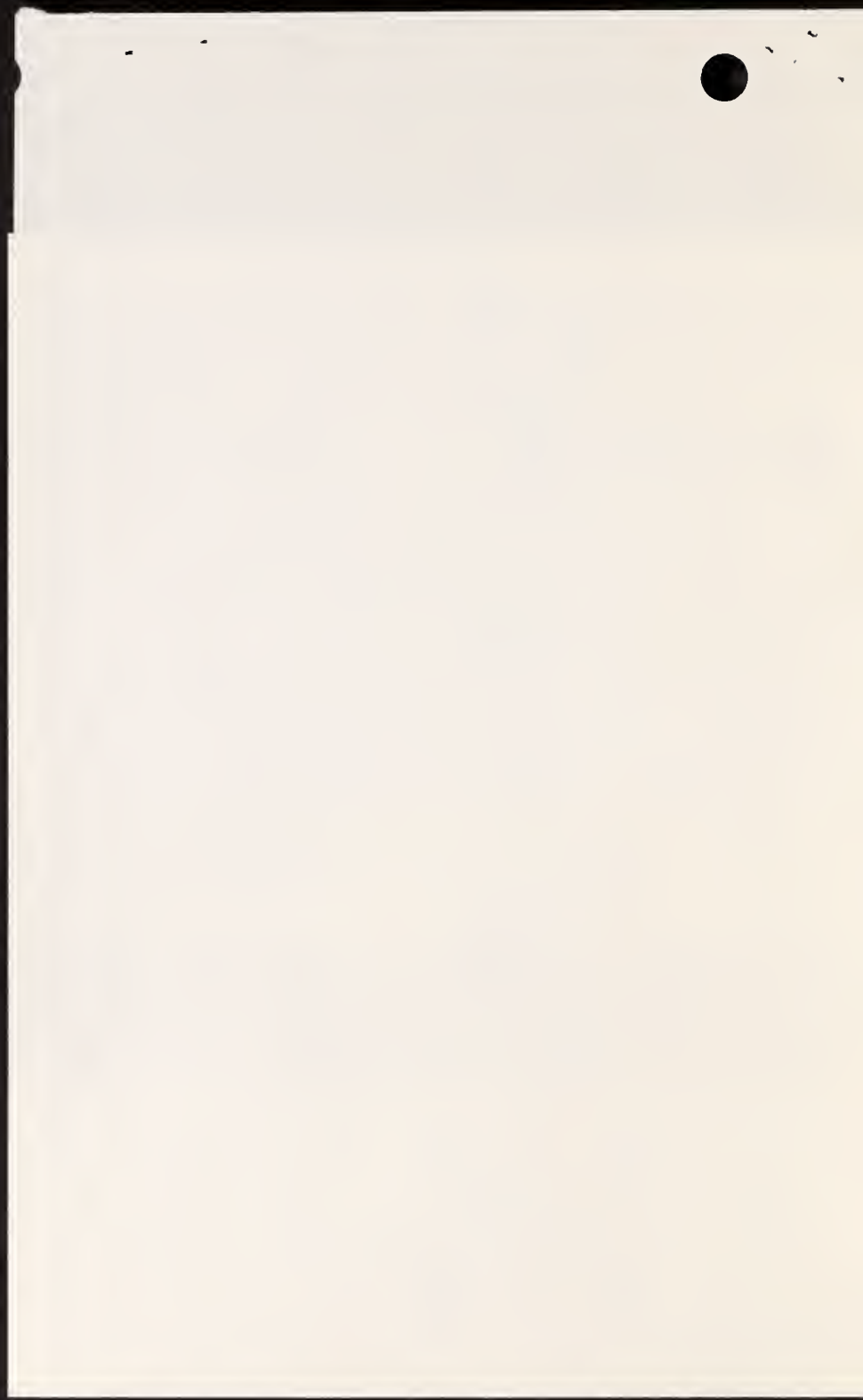
6. Recorded by Frank Garretson

Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.

Date March 1977

(over)





7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This hill is one of the most attractive locations in Fitchburg. From Mt. Vernon St. one has views of much of the City. This area developed with substantial Victorian homes, many in the Mansard style. Today the southern portion of this area has declined and a number of buildings have been demolished. This area still has the potential to be one of the most attractive neighborhoods in the City. Its Victorian architecture is of a high quality. Many important families used to live in this area including the Kimballs and Simonds. Today the northern end of this street has been recently developed as an exclusive residential area.

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
1200 - 1230	J

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XX

1. Town Fitchburg

Name of area (if any) _____

Blossom Street Area

3. General date or period 19th century
and early 20th century

4. Is area uniform (explain):
in style? Varies greatly
in condition? Generally good to excellent
in type of ownership? Private
in use? Residential

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Frank Garretson

Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.

Date March 1977

(over)



7



J

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This area was developed with several early farms. During the 1850's and 60's much development occurred at the lower end of the Street. At the turn-of-the century, many more homes were built and upper Blossom Street became a fashionable place to live. Large estate type homes were built at the upper part of Blossom Street. This street displays the residential development and growth and change of the City.

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
1300-1324	K

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.

Name of area (if any) _____

Highland Ave. Area

3. General date or period Late 19th century
and early 20th century

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? Varies

in condition? good to excellent

in type of ownership? Private

in use? Residential/Institutional
(State College)

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Frank Garretson

Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.

Date March 1977

(over)



T

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This area was mainly developed in the 2nd half of the 19th century. It is a residential area with a variety of 19th century styles. Although there are many styles the buildings make an attractive area due to the similarities in scale, detailing, and landscaping. This area includes a variety of residential building types, including apartments, three deckers, duplexes and many single family homes.

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
1400 - 1423	L

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XX

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.
Name of area (if any) Summer
Street Area
3. General date or period Late 19th century
and early 20th century
4. Is area uniform (explain):
in style? Varies
in condition? generally good to excellent
in type of ownership? private
in use? Mainly residential

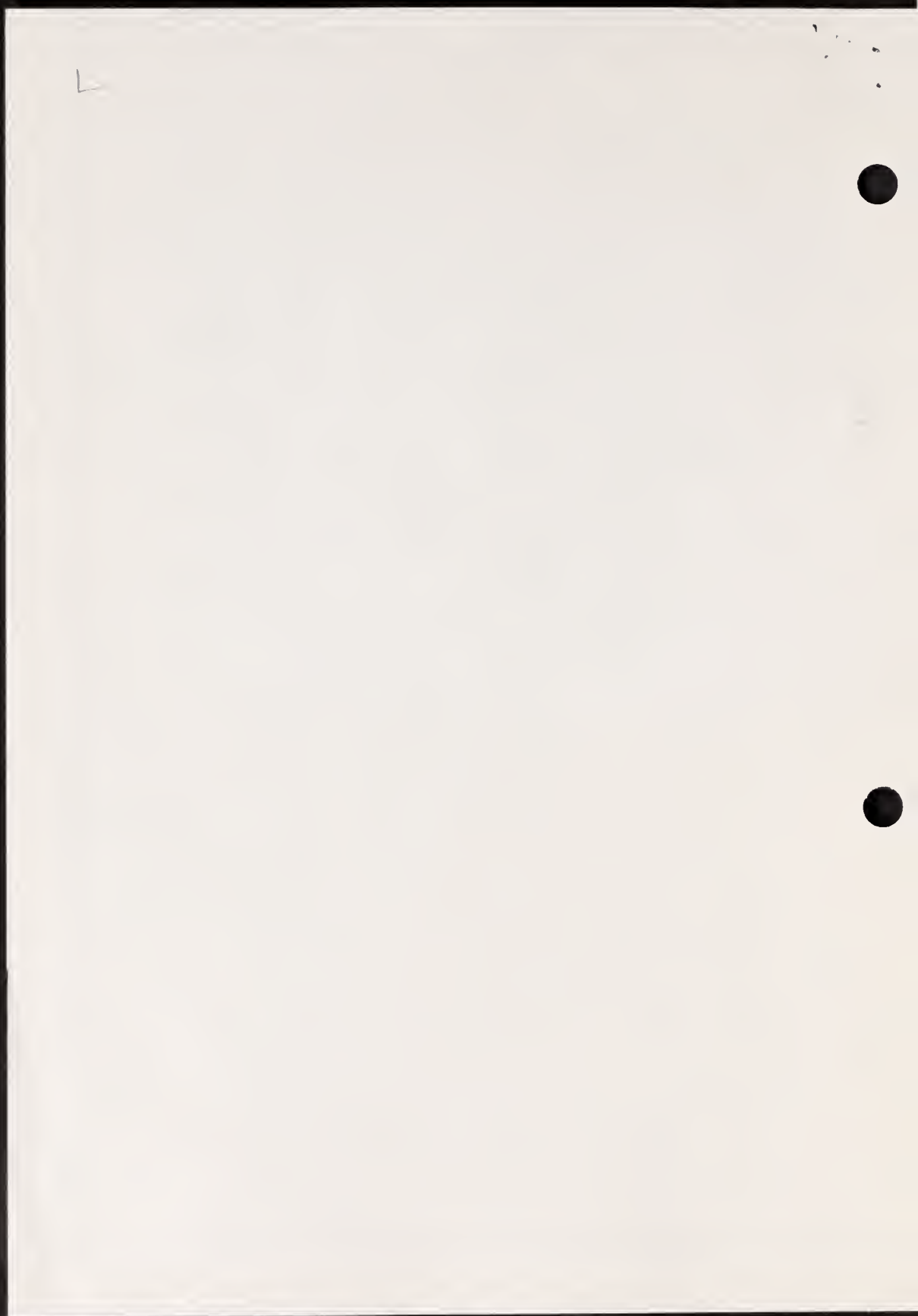
5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Frank Garretson
Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.
Date March 1977





7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

Although there were a few early 19th century houses in this area, most the houses date from the late 19th century and early 20th century when this area became a fashionable residential area. Many of the people who profited from the booming economy of the late 19th century built homes in this area. Most of these were architect designed and quite elaborate. There are a variety of styles but most the buildings relate well in quality, scale, and landscaping. This area is a living museum of late 19th and early 20th century architecture.

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
150 - 1519	M

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number XX

1. Town Fitchburg, Mass.

Name of area (if any) _____

South Street Area

3. General date or period Colonial upto
20th century

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? Varies

in condition? generally good

in type of ownership? Mostly private

in use? Mostly residential

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Frank Garretson

Organization Fitchburg Historical Comm.

Date March 1977

(over)



LAUREL ST

1502

1501

1500

RAYSON ST

1505

WALNUT ST

1504

SAMUEL ST

1503

1502

1501

ALLEN PLACE

1519

1518

NASDAQ ST

1511

CHARLES ST

1517

1512

CHARLES ST

MILK ST

9151

1511

1511

THOMAS ST

1511

1511

LINDEN ST

ELIZABETH ST

PINE ST



17

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This area has some of the oldest houses in the city. These are generally scattered throughout this area. Parts of the area were subdivided in the mid 19th century with Greek Revival style cottages. Other parts, such as Hale's Hill, were subdivided in the late 19th century and have interesting Victorian houses. A number of prominent families have lived in this area such as the Kimballs (Builders of the 1st dam in Fitchburg) and the Putnams. This whole area is very attractive. The topography is steep and most homes have good views of the City.

✓

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

